

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS  
SAN ANTONIO DIVISION

LAW UNION DEL PUEBLO ENTERO;  
FRIENDSHIP-WEST BAPTIST CHURCH;  
THE ANTI-DEFAMATION LEAGUE  
AUSTIN, SOUTHWEST, AND TEXOMA;  
SOUTHWEST VOTER REGISTRATION  
EDUCATION PROJECT; TEXAS IMPACT;  
MEXICAN AMERICAN BAR  
ASSOCIATION OF TEXAS; TEXAS  
HISPANICS ORGANIZED FOR  
POLITICAL EDUCATION; JOLT  
ACTION; WILLIAM C. VELASQUEZ  
INSTITUTE; ISABEL LONGORIA;  
JAMES LEWIN; AND FIEL HOUSTON,  
INC.,

Plaintiffs,

Defendants.

NO. SA-21-CA-844-FB

## ORDER

At approximately 11:00 a.m., September 7, 2021, the Governor of the State of Texas signed S.B. 1. Various plaintiffs now bring challenges, asserting that the legislation violates provisions of the Voting Rights Act, 42 U.S.C. § 1983, the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Rehabilitation Act, and the First, Fourteenth and Fifteenth Amendments to the United States Constitution. Two

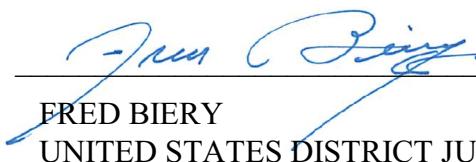
of the cases (1:21-cv-780-RP and 5:21-cv-844-FB) were filed on September 3, 2021, before the Governor signed S.B.1. On September 7, 2021, 5:21-cv-848-XR was filed at 11:12 A.M. Minutes later, 1:21-cv-786-RP was filed at 11:23 A.M.

“Courts in the Fifth Circuit generally follow a ‘first-filed rule’ in deciding which Court should maintain jurisdiction over claims that arise out of the same subject matter but are pressed in different suits.” *Igloo Products Corp. v. The Mounties, Inc.*, 735 F. Supp. 214, 217 (S.D. Tex. 1990). “The concern . . . is to avoid the waste of duplication, to avoid rulings which may trench upon the authority of sister courts, and to avoid piecemeal resolution of issues that call for a uniform result.” *West Gulf Mar. Ass’n v. ILA Deep Sea Local 24*, 751 F.2d 721, 729 (5th Cir. 1985). Applying the first-filed rule to the timely filed cases and in the interests of judicial economy, the above case is transferred to U.S. District Judge Xavier Rodriguez.

Accordingly, **IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** that this case is transferred to the docket of U.S. District Judge Xavier Rodriguez for all purposes. Pursuant to the Amended Order Assigning the Business of the Court, the Clerk shall credit this case to the percentage of business of the receiving Judge.

It is so **ORDERED**.

**SIGNED** this 14th day of September, 2021.



---

FRED BIERY  
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE